March 17. 1975

not expect to work. Now, if a student is working a full 40 hour week and has been for two and a half years for the same employer, and has been a qualified employee for that length of time, he should not be discriminated against because he also is trying to be a full-time student taking 12 hours. This is one of the inequalities where we have an opportunity to correct the law right now on LB 370. I move we advance 370 to Enrollment and Review.

PRESIDENT: Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I support advancing this bill. I think it's important to note that the bill was drafted so that the only students that would be eligible for unemployment were those that were working full-time during the school year. I think that's a very important point. Those students that would not work during the school year, that would take a job during summer vacation would not be eligible for unemployment in the Fall when they went back to school. What we're dealing with is a class of students that are working full-time trying to earn the money to support themselves, and often times a family. As this person who came and testified indicated, he had worked two and a half years at the same place. He was laid off because of the current economic conditions and found he was not eligible for unemployment. He had no source of funds. I think that he should be as eligible for unemployment as anvone else because he was, in fact, a worker as much as a student. Maybe more a worker because he's working full-time and he should be eligible. We're not giving anyone a free ride. We're not letting people work nine months, or three months rather, 90 days, pick up unemployment, then wait awhile and the next summer start again. Those students would not be covered. It's only the full-time working student.

PRESIDENT: Senator Burrows, are you ready to close debate by way of reply.

SENATOR BURROWS: Yes. I feel the question of botching up a law does not exist here. We have a botched up law, as sits on the books today. This brings it so it's fair to everybody concerned. We have students who have families. We're not talking about kids necessarily that have no responsibilities. We have students that have families that depend on a full-time job. They're certainly entitled, when they earn the benefits, to get them and not be discriminated against because they're trying to further themselves. Ambitious kids that are working full-time and going to school too. The present law discriminates against them. This will simply open it up so it's fair to everybody concerned. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The question is the advancement of LB 370. Record your vote. Record Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 3 nays.

PRESIDENT: LB 370 advances. Chair recognizes Senator Murphy. For what purpose do you arise, Senator?